REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 10, 11, 13-15 and 17-24 are presently pending in the application.

At page 4 of the Office Action the Examiner has withdrawn the rejection of claims 1, 7, 10, 11 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the previously cited references of Koyama et al. and Ott. Further, the Examiner has allowed claims 17 and 20 and has indicated claims 7 and 21-23 to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, Applicants have incorporated the subject matter of claim 7 into claim 1, so that claim 7 is now in independent form. Since all of the remaining claims, except for allowed claims 17 and 20, depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, it is submitted that all of these claims are also allowable for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1.

At pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action the Examiner has rejected previous claims 1-6, 10-11, 13-15, 18, 19 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zielinski. While not necessarily agreeing with the Examiner's rejection or the arguments in support thereof, this rejection is moot in view of the incorporation of the subject matter of claim 7 into claim 1 and the fact that all of the remaining rejected claims now depend directly or indirectly from allowable amended claim 1. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, it is submitted that all of the claims in the application patentably distinguish over the prior art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Date)

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